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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION . UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

August 2, 1946

No. 174

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS. . . . July 24, the President approved a bill to establish an international animal quarantine station on Swan Island; the President approved the Flood Control Act of 1946. July 25, the House passed the Congressional reorganization bill; the House Agriculture Committee reported a bill to provide for price support on wool; the President approved a bill to continue Federal administration of the Agricultural Conservation Program; the President approved a measure to extend and amend the Emergency Price Control and Stabilization Acts.

July 26, the Senate concurred in the House amendments to the Congressional reorganization bill (ready for the President); the House passed the vocational-education bill, which increases authorizations for agricultural categories; the House concurred in the Senate amendments to the Manasco bill providing substantive authority for various administrative expense provisions of the Independent Offices Act (ready for the President); the President approved a bill to provide that future peanut quotas shall be at least as large as in 1941. July 27, the Senate passed a measure to continue authority for alcohol plants to produce sugars; the House passed bills to amend the Agricultural Marketing Agreements Act and to regulate garbage disposal. The President approved a bill to continue the Sugar Act of 1937 until December 31, 1947.

July 29, both Houses agreed to the conference report on the Colley farm credit bill which would establish a Farmers' Home Administration to replace FSA; the Senate passed the Flannagan-Hope research-marketing bill; the Senate passed a bill to provide for two additional assistant secretaries of Agriculture; the Senate confirmed the nominations of Roy L. Thompson, Daniel W. Bell, and Geo. H. Mead to the Price Decontrol Board. July 30, the House concurred in the Senate amendments to the Flannagan-Hope research-marketing bill (ready for the President); the House concurred in the Senate amendment to a bill authorizing health programs for government personnel (ready for the President); the Senate passed a bill to provide for a settlement of Mediterranean fruitfly claims; the President approved a bill to provide for the liquidation of rural-rehabilitation projects; July 31, the Senate committees reported bills to: amend the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act, authorize price support and research on guayule rubber, authorize appropriations for farm labor supply program, and provide for regulation of garbage disposal.

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HAVE YOU SEEN "COTTON FACTS," the new information piece stressing production of high-grade cotton or point 6 of the 7-step cotton program? USDA, the State Extension Services of the South, and the National Cotton Council cooperated in preparing this booklet containing facts and ideas for county agents and others interested in improving the grade of cotton. Copies of this fact sheet, No. 1088, may be obtained from the Office of Information.

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FAO INFORMATION PROGRAM. . . . Next month, when the Food and Agriculture Organization convenes in Copenhagen, Denmark, the world begins consideration of permanent machinery for dealing with international food problems. Because of the stake American agriculture has in good nutrition for everyone and good markets for the farmer, information to promote understanding of world food problems and programs is of tremendous importance.

Secretary Anderson said: "We now have (in FAO) the beginning of international machinery designed to bring about common policies and actions among nations on food matters. But that machinery is new and untried. Our job is to make it work."

To assist information workers in this job, a basic fact sheet on FAO and the world food problem is being prepared and will be widely distributed soon. It will provide the basis for information work with farmers and the public, and will help focus attention on the work of the Copenhagen conference.

The conference itself will provide at least three documents that will be the source of information and discussion: (1) proposals for permanent machinery to deal with food problems, (2) the world food balance sheet and (3) the Director General's report of progress so far. USDA is making arrangements to distribute copies of these releases as soon as available and also to receive reports from the conference while it is in session.

Representatives of 60 nations are expected to attend. The U. S. delegation will be announced soon.

The Food and Agriculture Organization, Secretary Anderson said in a recent address, "is one of the greatest hopes of mankind for peace and plenty in the future." It is the first tangible, operating agency the nations of the world ever have set up to attack the problem of hunger at its roots. Its primary objective is to help nations of the world to expand both the supply and the effective demand for food so that the earth's two billion men, women and children may have a better living. It seeks to bring new standards of nutrition to the world, and the means to meet those standards. It hopes to lift the curse which has kept two-thirds of the world's people perpetually underfed."

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SCHOOL LUNCH INFORMATION AIDS. . . . A number of information aids for the new school lunch program are in the mill, some of which will be ready before opening of schools in September. A pamphlet explaining the new School Lunch Act and how the program will operate will be released soon. It is a fuller, more complete version of the fact sheet recently distributed. Some exhibits are being prepared, also sample press releases, radio scripts, and the like for suggested use in the field. Some new pictures will be made available to magazines and newspapers to illustrate school lunch stories. A small monthly publication is planned as an aid to operators of school lunch kitchens, one feature of which will be recipes using abundant foods.

Ten million dollars has been earmarked for equipment for the year 1946-47, under the new School Lunch Act. This will mean new kitchens and/or new equipment for a number of schools. To help supply some of the "know-how" for those who will set up, install, and operate the new kitchens and equipment, the Department is planning an instructive film strip on the subject. Further announcement will be made when the information aids are available.

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THE NEW PRICE DECONTROL BOARD of three men, confirmed by the Senate July 29, went into action the 31st as it met with Secretary Anderson and OPA Administrator Porter to make plans for administration of the new OPA law. According to latest press reports the Decontrol Board plans to begin public hearings August 12 to determine whether price ceilings should be restored after August 20 on meat, dairy products, grains, cottonseed, and soybeans. In the meantime USDA and OPA are working together closely under the new set up.

On July 26, Price Administrator Porter issued a statement (OPA Release 6635) emphasizing that under the Price Control Extension Act of 1946 all ceilings go back to where they were on June 30, except where the new law specifically makes other provisions and that these restored ceilings will serve as the basis for any adjustments made necessary as a result of the new act or because of any adjustments in process on June 30. He had this to say specifically about food controls:

Approximately 40 percent of all foods remain under control. It is erroneous to assume that all agricultural commodities are removed from price control until the Secretary of Agriculture certifies on September 1, items which are in short supply. The Act exempts livestock, milk, cottonseed, soybeans, poultry and eggs, or food or feed products manufactured in whole or substantial part from them, along with grains and livestock or poultry feeds made from grains.

Until September 1, all agricultural commodities now under ceilings will remain under ceilings unless decontrolled. OPA will very shortly announce special actions to cover changes in subsidies and other factors relating to coffee, flour, corn meal and wet corn milling products. Under the major OPA food regulations, all sellers go back to their June 30 ceilings until notified of changes in their suppliers' ceilings.

Other recent OPA releases of special interest to Agriculture follow:

Retail ceiling prices for all farm equipment and replacement parts will be raised an average of about six percent over June 30, 1946 levels to meet requirements of the new Price Control Act--OPA-6645;

Quotas governing the amount of livestock that may be slaughtered under Control Order 2 in non-Federally-inspected plants will continue on unlimited basis until further notice--OPA-T-4828;

An increase of 1.3 cents a pound in ceiling prices of raw linseed oil and various linseed oil products announced--OPA-T-4831;

Dollar-and-cent Community Pricing Program for groceries and perishable foods will be continued, within the limits of the extended Price Control Act. (This is the program under which OPA has supplied lists of the ceiling prices of most important grocery items for posting in the grocery stores)--OPA-6641;

Current ceiling prices for iron and steel scrap are adequate and no increase will be granted in the foreseeable future--OPA-T-4801;

Cost of air shipping fresh fruits and vegetables may be included in ceiling prices until December 31, 1946--OPA-T-4725.

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J. D. RICHARDSON, visual information specialist in the Office of Information, transferred as of August 1 to Department of the Interior's Reclamation Bureau, as chief of its Division of Engineering, Drafting, and Graphic Services.

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SOME USDA RELEASES. . . . Cocoanut removed from import control by amend, to WFO 63--1617; Stocks of old wheat on July 1 of 191 $\frac{1}{2}$ million bu. is smaller than any other time in the 20 years for which records are available, except on July 1, 1937--1621; The land market--1616; 1945 canned and frozen vegetable subsidy programs discontinued--1627; Dried prune and raisin subsidy program terminated--1629; Distilling Industry Advisory Committee holds meeting at USDA--1626; Dry edible bean subsidy to be terminated--1628; Eligible sales period for 1946 canned and frozen vegetables subsidy programs not to be extended--1636; Larger world food production forecast in third OFAR report on survey of world situation for Famine Emergency Committee--1632; USDA announces August bread grains export allocations--1641; Chickens raised on farms in 1946 total 677,166,000 according to preliminary BAE estimate--1643; Certificate plan for producers required to sell wheat under WFO 144-1647; Stocks of grain in all positions on July 1--1651; WFO 42a suspended--controlled use of fats and oils in the manufacture of protective coatings, floor coverings, and coated fabrics since Oct. 1, 1942--1652; "REA's Importance to Oklahoma Agriculture," address by Claude R. Wickard, REA Administrator, at Farmers' Week, Stillwater, Okla, July 31--1639; USDA meat production report for week ended July 27--1654; Grain dealers no longer required to offer "excess wheat" to CCC, by amendment 14 to WFO 144, eff. 7/31/46--1657; R. W. Trullinger made chief of USDA's Office of Experiment Stations, succeeding James T. Jardine, OES chief since 1931--1644; Twenty-one Chinese students who have studied extension work of U. S. since Sept. 1945 return to carry on extension work in China--1666; 1946 cotton loan program--1669.

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RECENT USDA PUBLICATIONS. . . . Sewage and Garbage Disposal on the Farm, Farmers' Bul. No. 1950, 28 p., Rev. June 1946; Watch Your Step, Avoid Farm Accidents, Misc. Pub. No. 608, 32 p. (supersedes Misc. Pub. 481); Community Canning Centers, Misc. Pub. No. 544, Rev. March 1946, 85 p.; Preparation of Ammonium Nitrate for Use as a Fertilizer, Tech. Bul. No. 912, 80 p.; Investigations in Erosion Control and Reclamation of Eroded Sandy Clay Lands of Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana, Tech. Bul. 916, 76 p..

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RADIO SCHEDULE, AUGUST 10. . . . CONSUMER TIME, NBC, 11:15 a.m., EST, superstitions and wrong ideas about food will be "debunked."

NATIONAL FARM AND HOME HOUR, NBC, 12:00 a.m., EST, Discussion of the large peach crop and how to make the most of it by Lucile Holmes of USDA's Radio Service and Duke DuMars of the Secretary's Office--the "Home" part of the program. Also "Department of Agriculture Headlines," as usual.

AMERICAN FARMER, ABC, 11:30 a.m., EST, the "Business Side of Farming," and pickups from USDA offices in San Francisco, Washington, D. C., and Shenandoah, Iowa about how information for crop reports is obtained and other facts about crop reporting.

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CALL FOR HARVESTERS. . . . In spite of improvement in the farm labor supply, workers are not yet in sight to meet fall labor needs in areas of high production of fruit, vegetables, and nuts, according to the July 15 supplement to the basic farm labor fact sheet which is being distributed this week. The supplement brings farm labor facts up to date and sets the stage for the fall labor program. It stresses the need for saving all the food of the 1946 harvest because of its importance in the world food crisis. Last fall, we had 125,000 German prisoners of war and 90,000 foreign workers to help in the harvest. This year we won't have the prisoners and not more than 60,000 or 70,000 foreign workers. This means that many thousands of full and part-time emergency workers will be needed in high production areas.

A national recruiting campaign is not considered necessary because the need will vary as to number and type of workers from State to State and area to area. But, the help of all information media--National, State and local--will be appreciated to recruit workers when and where they are needed. Individuals or organizations desiring to cooperate are referred for information to the county agricultural agent, the State farm labor and Extension Service offices, State land grant colleges, or the Extension Farm Labor Program office, USDA in Washington. Copies of the July 15 supplemental fact sheet may be obtained from the Office of Information.

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LOOKING FORWARD TO LABOR DAY. . . . USDA and The Advertising Council, Inc., are beginning a special drive to prevent forest fires around Labor Day (Sept. 2) this year. Considerable increase in the number of forest fires were noticed after the long holiday week-ends this spring and summer. This suggested the need for a special drive for the Labor Day week-end when many vacationers will take advantage of forest recreational facilities. All out support of the campaign is called for; this is your invitation to cooperate in any way possible. The radio networks have been asked to allot time for public service messages on forest fire prevention the week before September 2.

The Department's fall forest fire prevention campaign is concentrated in the South and on the Eastern Seaboard. Plans to support it this year include posting 18,000 car cards in these regions and placing some 50,000 posters in window displays through the cooperation of the national association of window display advertisers.

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